

**SENATE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION memorializing the life of Holocaust survivor Michael Vogel, a tireless national activist and an ardent supporter of Indiana high school soccer.

CLARK

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION memorializing the life of Holocaust survivor Michael Vogel, a tireless national activist and an ardent supporter of Indiana high school soccer.

Whereas, on November 21, 2000, people of the world mourned with the passing of former Auschwitz inmate #65316, namely Michael Vogel;

Whereas, born in 1923, Mike grew up in Czechoslovakia as one of five children raised by two loving parents, and spent much of his youth playing soccer;

Whereas, after the Nazi war machine occupied central Europe in World War II, Mike and his family were loaded into cattle cars and shipped to Auschwitz concentration camp in Oswiecim, Poland in the summer of 1942;

Whereas, Mike quickly discovered the horrific intentions of the Nazis when his mother and all of his siblings were killed there in 1942. Mike's father briefly worked as a slave laborer until he fell ill, whereupon he was summarily executed;

Whereas, continuing to survive as a slave laborer, Mike and two other prisoners found an opportunity to escape the Auschwitz death camp during an Allied air raid, when they used the distraction to flee into the woods;



Whereas, Mike eventually made his way to the United States in 1946, and in 1948 he married Agnes Weisz, a Hungarian death camp survivor;

Whereas, filled with his nightmarish experiences and the indelible #65316 permanently tattooed to his arm, Mike began his role as a Holocaust victims activist, returning to testify in Germany against Nazis several times since 1982;

Whereas, in the mid-1990's, Mike participated in a locally produced, nationally distributed, and Emmy award winning documentary entitled "Auschwitz: If You Cried, You Died", and he assisted with the related Holocaust exhibits at the Indianapolis Children's Museum;

Whereas, soccer occupied the other great passion in Mike's life, and he helped start several soccer programs, including those at North Central High School, the Jewish Community Center, and the Dynamo Soccer Association;

Whereas, in recognition of his invaluable support to its program, the North Central Soccer Club established its Vogel Humanitarian Award in 1994;

Whereas, Mike was inducted into the Indiana Soccer Hall of Fame Referee Division in 1997 for his service as a league referee for over two decades;

Whereas, widely recognized for his activism on many levels, Mike received many other distinguished awards, including a Jefferson Award (1996), Sagamore of the Wabash (1997), Honorary Doctorate from DePauw University for Public Service (1997), Indiana Council of Social Studies Award from Purdue University (1998), Indiana Junior Historical Society Award (1999), and the Jewish Community Center Award (1999); and

Whereas, North Central High School soccer coach Jerry



Little aptly described Mike Vogel, stating "he's the ideal of what we would like our young men to grow up to be. Surviving the Holocaust and the kind of horror that he went through -- to turn out to be such a generous, loving and kind man ... We're not sure we would be able to rise to that level after something like that." Therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the House of Representatives concurring:

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly mourns the loss
- 2 of Indianapolis native and Holocaust survivor Michael Vogel, a tireless
- 3 national activist and an ardent supporter of Indiana high school soccer.
- 4 SECTION 2. That the people of Indiana are humbled by the
- 5 courage and philanthropic values exhibited by Mr. Vogel as an
- 6 extraordinary humanitarian and as an outstanding mentor to many.
- 7 SECTION 3. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby directed to
- 8 transmit copies of this Resolution to Mr. Vogel's wife, Agnes Weisz
- 9 Vogel; children, Howard A. Vogel; Linda E. Vogel; Dr. Caryn M.
- 10 Vogel; Elaine C. Vogel-Keller; and North Central High School Soccer
- 11 Coach Jerry Little.

